

## APPENDIX J. MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL--HIGH-POTENTIAL SITES

NO	SITE NAME	COUNTY	STATE	QUAD 1:100,000	DESCRIPTION	NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS	OWNERSHIP	THREATS TO RESOURCES/VISITOR SERVICES
1	Nauvoo National Historic District	Hancock	IL	Burlington	This site contains 1,100 acres of authentically restored significant homes and shops, including Brigham Young's home. The restored town of Nauvoo contains streets, 18 restored houses, shops, and a visitor center.	Listed	Private (Nauvoo Restoration)	None known
2	Nauvoo Landing	Hancock	IL	Burlington	The site marks the eastern terminus of the Mormon migration west. A pavilion, a granite marker, a bronze plaque, and flagpole now commemorate and honor the exodus of the pioneers from Nauvoo.	Listed	Private (Nauvoo Restoration)	None known
3	Montrose Landing	Lee	IA	Burlington	This is the site where the pioneers landed on the west shore of the Mississippi River during their exodus from Nauvoo in 1846.	Listed	Public (City Park)	An accessible wayside exhibit has been installed.
4	Sugar Creek Camp	Lee	IA	Burlington	This was the first camp for the Camp of Israel and is notorious as a place of intense hardship during the late winter of 1846.	Listed	Private	Need for signage.
5	Des Moines River Crossing	Van Buren	IA	Burlington	This is the site where the pioneers made their first major river crossing west of the Mississippi on March 5, 1846.	Listed	Private	An accessible wayside exhibit has been installed in the city park on the riverbank.
6	Chariton River Crossing	Appanoose	IA	Centerville	Difficult crossing of the Chariton River in March 1846; some extant wagon ruts. The Saints camped here 10 days.	Not Listed	Public (State of Iowa)	None known; access to the site is across private land; wayside panel on ridge overlooking the valley.
7	Locust Creek Camp	Wayne	IA	Leon	This site is where on April 13, 1846, William Clayton wrote the words to the now famous Mormon hymn, "Come, Come Ye Saints."	Not listed	Private	None known; wayside exhibits have been placed in the Tharp Cemetery.
8	Garden Grove	Decatur	IA	Leon	This grove is historically known as the first place of permanent habitation in the Potawatomi Indian lands in territorial Iowa and as a Mormon waystation from 1846 to 1852.	Listed	Public (County) / private	None known; two wayside exhibits have been placed at the site.
9	Mt. Pisgah	Union	IA	Creston	The area was maintained as a Mormon waystation from 1846 to 1852, and at its height it had over 2,000 inhabitants.	Listed	Public (County) / private	Need better access to spring and ruts.
10	Grand Encampment	Pottawattamie	IA	Omaha	This area was used as a staging point for pioneers en route to the Rocky Mountains. The enrollment of the historic Mormon Battalion took place here.	Not listed	Private (Iowa School for the Deaf)	None known; several wayside exhibits and a trail through a restored section of prairie are at the site.
11	Kanesville Tabernacle	Pottawattamie	IA	Omaha	The 1847 Kanesville Tabernacle was the first tabernacle built by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. On December 27, 1847, Brigham Young was sustained as the second president of the church in this building. The original building was dismantled. This replica was built in 1996.	Not listed	Private	None known; next to the tabernacle is a visitor center.
12	Mormon Ferry (Missouri River)	Pottawattamie	IA	Omaha	This site is on the east bank of the Missouri River where the pioneers built a ferry in 1846 to cross the river.	Not listed	Private	None known
13	Winter Quarters	Douglas	NE	Omaha	This site was an important Mormon community and the place where the Pioneer Party began its 1847 travel. The site includes the historic area of North Omaha, near State and 33rd Streets, including the Mormon Pioneer Memorial Bridge, the Mormon Cemetery, Culter's Park, and the Mormon Pioneer Camp.	Not listed	Private (LDS Church)	A major interpretive center was built here in 1997.
14	Crossing of the Elkhorn River	Douglas	NE	Fremont	This was the first major river crossing west of the Missouri River.	Not listed	Private	None known; an exhibit is planned.
15	Liberty Pole Camp	Dodge	NE	Fremont	This was an important camp, where the pioneers were organized in military manner on April 17, 1847. The reconstructed liberty pole, which originally marked the staging ground of the 1847 Mormon move across Nebraska, is made from a trimmed cottonwood tree.	Not listed	Private	None known; pole has been reerected and a new marker is scheduled for installation.
16	Loup River Ford	Nance	NE	David City	This is the location where the pioneers crossed another major Nebraska river on April 24, 1847.	Not listed	Private	None known

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17	Murdock Site	Hall	NE	Grand Island	This 2.4 acre site is on the south side of the Wood River. The pioneers crossed the tract in a northeasterly to southwesterly direction.	Not listed	Private (Hall County Historical Society)	None known; exhibit is being planned.
18	Sand Hills Ruts	Lincoln	NE	Ogallala	This is one of the few points where the pioneers had to leave the river to go up and across the hills.	Not listed	Private	None known
19	Ancient Bluff Ruins	Morrill	NE	Crescent Lake	This is the most dramatic and extensive bluff formation on the trail in Nebraska.	Not listed	Private	Need for interpretation and adequate access.
20	Courthouse Rock/Jail Rock	Morrill	NE	Scottsbluff	This site is an important natural landmark that was always noted by emigrant diaries.	Listed (Courthouse Rock)	Public (City of Bridgeport, NE Historical Society)	Dirt bikes, vandalism, all terrain vehicles pose threat to the resources. Interpretation is needed.
21	Chimney Rock	Morrill	NE	Scottsbluff	This is one of the most famous natural landmarks along the emigrant trails corridor.	Listed	Public (Nebraska State Historical Society)	None known; there is a new visitor center and increased interpretation.
22	Scotts Bluff National Monument/Mitchell Pass	Scotts Bluff	NE	Scottsbluff	Scotts Bluff was the first of many imposing barriers that travelers would encounter as they made their way west. It was also the last famous landmark along the Great Platte River Road.	National Natural and Historic Landmark	Public (National Park Service)	Visual intrusions and potential urban sprawl from Gering and Scottsbluff.
23	Fort Laramie National Historic Site	Goshen	WY	Torrington	Fort John, part of Ft. Laramie National Historic Site, served as an important outfitting and resupply point during the pioneer migration.	National Historic Landmark	Public (NPS)	None known
24	Register Cliff	Platte	WY	Torrington	Pioneers stopped and carved their names on this prominent cliff on the south bank of the North Platte River.	Listed	Public (State of WY)	Natural deterioration, vandalism; need to update interpretive material.
25	Guernsey Ruts (Deep Rut Hill)	Platte	WY	Torrington	This site contains impressive trail ruts, worn to a depth of 5 feet in places.	National Historic Landmark	Public (State of WY)	The site needs more appropriate development. It needs better marking and interpretation. Visitor use should be controlled to protect the ruts and surrounding terrain from the effects of indiscriminate wandering.
26	Warm Springs Canyon	Platte	WY	Torrington	This was a prominent site along the pioneers' trail and has been often called the "emigrants' wash tub."	Not listed	Private	None known
27	Laramie Peak	Albany	WY	Laramie Peak	This landmark guided emigrants' travel for many days.	Not listed	Public (Medicine Bow National Forest)	None known
28	Ayres Natural Bridge	Converse	WY	Douglas	This is a natural feature often mentioned in Mormon emigrant diaries. It was used as a campsite.	Not listed	Public (State of WY)	Overuse; needs interpretive program.
29	Upper Platte Ferry and Ford (1847)	Natrona	WY	Casper	In 1847, the Mormon Pioneers obtained timber from the nearby mountains to build and operate a ferry across the river. This ferry was maintained for the use of both Mormon parties and non-Mormon emigrants. A new ferry was built further upstream in 1849.	Not listed	Public (City of Casper)	None known
30	Emigrant Gap	Natrona	WY	Casper	This site is a gap in the hills where emigrant wagons left the North Platte River Valley and started cross-country to the Sweetwater River.	Not listed	Public (BLM)	None known; BLM interpretive marker.
31	Avenue of Rocks	Natrona	WY	Casper	This was a prominent feature mentioned by the Mormon Pioneers as the place where the Trail passed between high rocks, which formed a gateway or avenue.	Not listed	Public (State of Wyoming)	Vandalism and erosion on county roads are the main threats. The site needs better interpretation.
32	Willow Springs	Natrona	WY	Casper	This site offered the first good, clear, cool water encountered by the pioneers after leaving the North Platte River.	Not listed	Private	Site needs interpretation.
33	Prospect Hill	Natrona	WY	Casper	This site has clearly visible ruts up the eastern slope of Prospect Hill, with an almost identical view from the top of the hill as the view that greeted the Pioneer Company on June 20, 1847.	Not listed	Public (BLM)	Mineral development; access; BLM interpretive marker at the top of Prospect Hill.
34	Independence Rock	Natrona	WY	Bairoil	This site is among the most noted landmarks on the emigrant trails.	National Historic Landmark	Public (State of WY)	Overuse
35	Devil's Gate	Natrona	WY	Bairoil	This site is among the more interesting geographical landmarks along the emigrant trails. It was a frequent resting and camping site. There are inscriptions and graves in the area.	Listed	Public (BLM)	None known; visitor facilities include BLM pull-out.
36	Split Rock	Fremont	WY	Bairoil	This is another prominent geographical feature noted in many diaries.	Not listed	Public / private	Vandalism; access to trail; BLM marker by the side of the road.

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37	Three Crossings	Fremont	WY	Rattlesnake Hills	At this narrow canyon emigrants were faced with three difficult crossings of the Sweetwater River. Emigrants had a choice; they could travel via the "deep sand" alternate route to the south of the Sweetwater, or they could follow the river through a narrow canyon, a trip that required crossing the Sweetwater three times within two miles. Most emigrants followed the river route because pulling the wagon across the deep sand was exhausting. A Pony Express station and a military outpost station were located here.	Not listed	Private / public	Buildings from a near-by uranium processing plant have been torn down, and the mill site has been under a reclamation effort for several years. BLM would like to acquire the site but might not be able to do so because the area may be contaminated.
38	Ice Slough	Fremont	WY	Lander	This site was the location of a cold spring where emigrants occasionally found ice underneath the soil until late in the summer. It became a major camping site.	Not listed	Public (BLM) / private	Hydric soils are susceptible to trampling damage by wild horses and season-long livestock grazing that has occurred for over a century. This has caused a loss of humus that provided the insulation to facilitate the maintenance of ice. Access to the site is through private land.
39	Rocky Ridge	Fremont	WY	South Pass	A barren, rocky ridge up which the California, Oregon, Pony Express, and Mormon Pioneer Trails ascended after leaving the Sweetwater River valley.	Not listed	Public (BLM)	Needs improved access and a cultural landscape report; the site has great visual integrity and does not appear to have been disturbed much; overuse may be a problem with increased visitation.
40	South Pass	Fremont	WY	South Pass	This is the famous crossing of the Continental Divide. It was noted for its gentle grade, making an easy crossing of the Rocky Mountains.	National Historic Landmark	Public (BLM)	In spite of an abandoned railroad grade, a diversion ditch, and the physical evidence of an AT&T buried cable, this site has an exceptional historic character and should be protected from any additional visual intrusions.
41	Pacific Springs	Fremont	WY	South Pass	This was the first water that the pioneers encountered after crossing the Continental Divide. The Mormons later established a station at this site.	Not listed	Private	None known
42	Dry Sandy Crossing	Sublette	WY	Farson	The first water source west of Pacific Springs and a difficult stream crossing.	Not listed	Private	None known
43	Parting of the Ways	Sweetwater	WY	Farson	This site is at the junction of the Oregon Trail and the Sublette cutoff. It is in the midst of a wide-open expanse of land with the two trails branching out from the junction. Both trails are plainly visible, and the eye can follow them for miles towards the horizon. At this point, emigrants had to make the hard decision whether to save 46 miles by taking the Sublette cutoff, which bypassed the southern loop through Ft. Bridger but also offered 50 miles of travel with no water. Decisions were based on the condition of the animals, people, and supplies, as well as grass conditions.	Listed	Public (BLM)	None known
44	Little Sandy Crossing	Sweetwater	WY	Farson	This is the site where the Mormon pioneers camped on the banks of Little Sandy Creek on June 28, 1847, and met Jim Bridger, who gave them valuable advice on the route ahead and his opinions concerning lands suitable for settlement.	Not listed	Public (BLM) / private	None known
45	Big Sandy Crossing	Sweetwater	WY	Farson	It was a difficult stream crossing and the location of a stage and Pony Express station. There are excellent examples of pristine ruts nearby.	Not listed	Public (BLM) / private	Currently there are few threats to the site because of limited access. However, vehicle overuse in the future could threaten nearby ruts, as well as degrade the nature of the river crossing.
46	Lombard Ferry	Sweetwater	WY	Rock Springs	The Mormon pioneers built rafts and floated their wagons across the river. Later in 1847, they built ferry boats and provided a commercial ferry service for emigrants along the trails.	Not listed	Public (Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge)	Gas development and fossil collectors are a threat to this site; interpretive pullout site.
47	Church Butte	Uinta	WY	Kemmerer	This site became a prominent landmark on the Mormon Pioneer Trail, but the Pioneer Party did not mention it.	Not listed	Private	Gas tanks and mineral development have negatively impacted the historic viewshed; vandalism and litter are also problems.

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48	Fort Bridger	Uinta	WY	Evanston	This site was one of three settlements on the trail at the time of the pioneers' journey.	Listed	Public (State of Wyoming)	None known; fort museum and visitor center.
49	Bear River Crossing	Uinta	WY	Evanston	This site was the last major river crossing in Wyoming.	Not listed	Private	None known; marker east of the river.
50	The Needles	Uinta	WY	Ogden	This is a prominent landmark on the trail near the Wyoming-Utah boundary where Brigham Young became violently ill, supposedly with mountain fever.	Not listed	Private	None known
51	Cache Cave	Summit	UT	Ogden	This was the first major campsite for the pioneers entering Utah. The cave is about 30 feet long, 15 feet wide, and from four to six feet high.	Not listed	Private	None known; visitor access is not allowed.
52	Big Mountain Pass	Morgan	UT	Salt Lake City	This was an important and difficult crossing for the pioneers, as it was the third highest point on the entire trail.	Not listed	Public	None known
53	Little Mountain Summit	Salt Lake	UT	Salt Lake City	This was the last summit the pioneers had to cross on the long trek.	Not listed	Public (Highway right-of-way)	None known; interpretive marker by the side of the road.
54	Last Camp	Salt Lake	UT	Salt Lake City	This was the last camping site of the pioneers before entering the Salt Lake Valley.	Not listed	Public (State of Utah)	None known; interpretive marker by the side of the road.
55	This is the Place State Park	Salt Lake	UT	Salt Lake City	This is the site of the Memorial to the Utah Pioneers and a reconstructed pioneer village.	Listed	Public (State of Utah)	None known; extensive visitor facilities.

